

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Examiner acknowledges Applicant's response filed 4 December 2009 containing amendments to the claims and remarks.
2. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 are pending. Claim 6 is newly added.
3. The previous rejections of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and/or 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment to the claims. Consequently, claims 1, 3, and 5 are allowed. Likewise, newly added claim 6 is allowed. Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance follows.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 are allowed.
5. The following is Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1, 3, 5, and 6, neither the "Breakthrough" article (*Durchbruch in der Biotechnologie, mit RMPD[®]-microFLUIDIK*, (October 24, 2000)) nor Gotzen (DE 10144579 A1) discloses or suggests wherein the microfluidic chip

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comprises cavities, channels, chambers, and crosspieces as specifically provided for and configured in Applicant's claims.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Randy Boyer whose telephone number is (571) 272-7113. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn A. Caldarola, can be reached at (571) 272-1444. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Randy Boyer/

Examiner, Art Unit 1797